Colourism in *Daii*land

by Kit Johnstone, Ph.D.

In Daii there is a phenomenon which is most aptly called 'colourism'. In 2006 Jinvatr was expelled as prime minister by people in Bangkauk it being the case that the rest of the country largely supporting him. That event split the people into two groups, the Yellow-Red and the Red-Blue, which I called respectively the Buddhist Nationalist and the Royalist Nationalist, the former being against and the latter for the legitimate Jinvatr. Over the following two years the former became Yellow whereas the latter became simply Red. Yellow had Prajadhipatý as puppet of the army, Red was mobilised by the poorer majority and those people outside the capital. With some double-standards and British mafia Yellow won.

Daii education had prepared the country for this. In all schools you have an annual not sport day but $ki\underline{l}asi$, colour sports when students are equally divided into four colours competing for their dominance in sports. This leads later in their lives to adhering to the 'colours' of their institutions, for example their vocational schools and universities. If you belong to different bodies you are of different colours. And the mentality being such that unless you are one of us you are enemies they make it their business to seriously fight each other.

Racism in *Daii* is but a part of this deep-rooted colourism. If you are a foreigner, for instance, you are unlikely to have any say in your work place.

This strange attachment to colours is possibly a kind of idolatry. People here lack God, so in their insecurity and need for god they create their own ones. Colours provide them a convenient solution, for both they and their formation can be changed from time to time. Then in their craving for the true God they could worship their own invention as an idol bigger than themselves, something to justify their actions.

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